



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/589,059

08/11/2006

Armin Stahn

57978/M521

5837

23363 7590 05/05/2010
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP
PO BOX 7068
PASADENA, CA 91109-7068

EXAMINER

REDMAN, JERRY E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3634

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/05/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/589,059	Applicant(s) STAHN ET AL.	
	Examiner Jerry Redman	Art Unit 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 32-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 50-55 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 39-41 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 32-38, 42-49 and 56-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/11/2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/20/2010</u> . | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>not approved drawings (4/16/2010)</u> . |

The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-31;

Claims 50-55 have been withdrawn; and

Claims 32-54, and 56-62 are herein addressed below.

This application contains claims 50-55 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse (and treated as an election without traverse based on an incomplete response dated 1/20/2010) in the reply filed on 9/21/2009. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

The proposed drawing (i.e., Figure 4) has not been approved. The proposed cross-sectional view cannot be correct for every objected to cross-section because in each Figure (1, 2b, and 3), not all of the cross-sectional elements are shown.

The drawings are objected to because Figures 1, 2B, and 3 fail to show where the cross-sectional views are taken from. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be

Art Unit: 3634

removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 32-38, 42-49, and 56-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE patent no. 40 21 011 A1 to Nichtennung. As shown in Figures 1 and 2, DE patent no. 40 21 011 A1 to Nichtennung discloses a housing (3) for receiving a cable drum (1) comprising a bearing point (6) formed at a bottom of the housing (3) which mounts the cable drum (1) having a tractive member (i.e., the cable 9), at least one wall (see Figures 1 or 2) encompassing the cable drum (1) along its periphery when mounted in the housing (3), an elastic securing element (12) proximate and spaced from the peripheral wall (see figure 1) to secure cable drum and tractive member (i.e.,

Art Unit: 3634

the cable 9) when mounted in the housing (3), a plate (2) covering the drum (1) within the housing (3), and two guide grooves (7 and 8) for guiding the tractive member(s) in and out of the housing (3). [note: with respect to claims 38 and 45, the method of how the elements are formed together carries little to no patentable weight in an apparatus claim since the elements are fixedly mounted together as one integral piece]

Claims 39-41 are allowable..

The applicant's arguments have been considered but are not deemed persuasive. It appears that the applicant's arguments are more limiting than that of the claims. patent no. 40 21 011 A1 to Nichtennung clearly discloses the punched out tab to support/engage/and bias the cable drum. If the patent no. 40 21 011 A1 to Nichtennung didn't want it to bias to provide a greater rigidity therein, then the entire wall surrounding the drum would be solid with only openings for the cable; but since the tab supports a large portion/side of the cable drum, it is inherent that the tab "biases" the drum.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

Art Unit: 3634

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Redman whose telephone number is 571-272-6835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH from 8 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Mitchell, can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jerry Redman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3634

/Jerry Redman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3634

Application/Control Number: 10/589,059
Art Unit: 3634

Page 6